

**APPENDIX B:**

# **Presidential Memorandum Regarding Antarctica, February 5, 1982**

Memorandum 6646

## **The White House Washington**

For:

Secretary of State  
Secretary of the  
Treasury  
Secretary of Defense  
Secretary of the Interior  
Secretary of Commerce  
Secretary of  
Transportation  
Secretary of Energy  
Director, Office of  
Management and  
Budget  
Director of Central  
Intelligence  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs  
of Staff  
Director, Arms Control  
and Disarmament  
Agency  
Director, Office of  
Science and  
Technology Policy  
Administrator,  
Environmental  
Protection Agency  
Director, National  
Science Foundation

### **Subject: United States Antarctic Policy and Programs**

I have reviewed the Antarctic Policy Group's study of United States interests in Antarctica and related policy and program considerations, as forwarded by the Department of State on November 13, 1981, and have decided that:

- The United States Antarctic Program shall be maintained at a level providing an active and influential presence in Antarctica designed to support the range of U.S. antarctic interests.
- This presence shall include the conduct of scientific activities in major disciplines; year-round occupation of the South Pole and two coastal stations; and availability of related necessary logistics support.
- Every effort shall be made to manage the program in a manner that maximizes cost effectiveness and return on investment.

I have also decided that the National Science Foundation shall continue to:

- budget for and manage the entire United States national program in Antarctica, including logistic support activities so that the program may be managed as a single package;
- fund university research and federal agency programs related to Antarctica;
- draw upon logistic support capabilities of government agencies on a cost reimbursable basis; and
- use commercial support and management facilities where these are determined to be cost effective and will not, in the view of the Group, be detrimental to the national interest.

Other agencies, may, however, fund and undertake directed short-term programs of scientific activity related to Antarctica upon the recommendation of the Antarctic Policy Group and subject to the budgetary review process. Such activities shall be coordinated within the framework of the National Science Foundation logistics support.

The expenditures and commitment of resources necessary to maintain an active and influential presence in antarctica, including the scientific activities and stations in the Antarctic, shall be reviewed and determined as part of the normal budget process. To ensure that the United States Antarctic Program is not funded at the expense of other National Science Foundation programs, the OMB will provide specific budgetary guidance for the antarctic program.

To ensure that the United States has the necessary flexibility and operational reach in the area, the Departments of Defense and Transportation shall continue to provide, on a reimbursable basis, the logistic support requested by the National Science Foundation and to develop, in collaboration with the Foundation, logistic arrangements and cost structure required for effective and responsive program support at minimum cost.

With respect to the upcoming negotiations on a regime covering antarctic mineral resources, the Antarctic Policy Group shall prepare a detailed U.S. position and instructions. These should be forwarded for my consideration by May 15, 1982.

Ronald Reagan

